BOARD MEETING

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

JOE SERNA, JR., Cal/EPA BUILDING

1001 I STREET

2ND FLOOR

CENTRAL VALLEY AUDITORIUM

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2003

1:30 P.M.

TIFFANY C. KRAFT, CSR, RPR CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER LICENSE NUMBER 12277

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APPEARANCES

BOARD MEMBERS

Linda Moulton-Patterson, Chairperson

Jose Medina, Vice Chairperson

Steven R. Jones

Michael Paparian

Cheryl Peace

Carl Washington

STAFF

Mark Leary, Executive Director

Julie Nauman, Chief Deputy Director

Kathryn Tobias, Chief Counsel

Scott Walker, Acting Deputy Director

Chuck White, Waste Management

Mark de Bie, Permitting and Inspection

ALSO PRESENT

Senator Richard Alarcon

Assemblymember Cindy Montanez

Mike Mohaier, Los Angeles County Public Works

Carol Ann Ziehler, East Valley Coalition

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1	PROCEEDINGS
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- 2 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Good afternoon.
- 3 I'd like to welcome you back to the Board meeting, and I'd
- 4 like to reopen our Board meeting.
- 5 We have one item left today, but before I do
- 6 that, please -- I'm sorry, Sharon. I'll give you a chance
- 7 to get down there.
- 8 Please call the roll.
- 9 SECRETARY WADDELL: Jones?
- 10 BOARD MEMBER JONES: Here.
- 11 SECRETARY WADDELL: Medina?
- 12 BOARD MEMBER MEDINA: Here.
- 13 SECRETARY WADDELL: Paparian?
- 14 BOARD MEMBER PAPARIAN: Here.
- 15 SECRETARY WADDELL: Peace?
- BOARD MEMBER PEACE: Here.
- 17 SECRETARY WADDELL: Washington?
- 18 BOARD MEMBER WASHINGTON: Here.
- 19 SECRETARY WADDELL: Moulton-Patterson?
- 20 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Here.
- 21 Any ex partes?
- Mr. Jones.
- BOARD MEMBER JONES: Madam Chair, I just got back
- 24 from speaking at SWANA, Solid Waste Substation, North
- 25 America's Sacramento chapter, and just discussed Board

- 1 items.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Ms. Peace.
- 3 BOARD MEMBER PEACE: I have a list of letters
- 4 here opposing the Bradley project that also went to Linda
- 5 Moulton-Patterson, and I also received this morning a
- 6 letter from Waste Management.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Okay. Thank you.
- 8 Did you want to read those?
- 9 BOARD MEMBER PAPARIAN: That may be the same list
- 10 I read yesterday.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Okay. Someone
- 12 read it in and -- Mr. Medina.
- 13 BOARD MEMBER MEDINA: I have the same letters,
- 14 those in support and those in opposition. And other than
- 15 that, I'm up to date.
- 16 In terms of the letters that -- you want to read
- 17 the letters into the record?
- 18 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: The names, for
- 19 all the Board members, if you didn't mind. Sure.
- 20 BOARD MEMBER MEDINA: I have one letter from
- 21 Waste Management, Kent Stoddard; and then I have a number
- 22 of individuals that sent in letters.
- 23 BOARD MEMBER PAPARIAN: I think those look like
- 24 the ones I read into the record yesterday.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Yesterday. Okay.

- 1 Thank you.
- 2 Mr. Paparian, anything new?
- 3 BOARD MEMBER PAPARIAN: Thank you, Madam Chair.
- 4 Yesterday at the end of the meeting I spoke with
- 5 several people following up on the C and E items. They
- 6 included Mike Hammer, Jeff Crocker, Patrick Munoz, and
- 7 Barry Broad. I also at that time ran into Kent Stoddard
- 8 and Chuck White from Waste Management.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- Mr. Washington.
- 11 BOARD MEMBER WASHINGTON: Yes. Mike Hammer from
- 12 yesterday, and I just briefly spoke to Kent Stoddard.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Mr. Medina.
- 14 BOARD MEMBER MEDINA: I ran into basically the
- 15 same people that Mr. Paparian did after yesterday's
- 16 meeting, all of those individuals.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- And I neglected to report yesterday that I also
- 19 had a conversation with Senator Chesbro regarding our
- 20 community structure. And other than that, I'm up to date.
- 21 I'm going to be turning it over to Mr. Leary. We
- 22 have one item, 31, Consideration of a Revised Full Solid
- 23 Waste Facilities Permit for Bradley Landfill West and West
- 24 Extension Los Angeles County.
- 25 Did you want to -- how long is your report?

1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LEARY: Very brief,

- 2 Madam Chair.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Okay. Then I'll
- 4 go to Senator and Assemblywoman.
- 5 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LEARY: Our report will
- 6 actually be presented by Scott Walker and Mark de Bie. We
- 7 have a very short presentation. I know we want to defer
- 8 to our legislative guests. Thank you.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: I apologize.
- 10 Mr. Paparian is Chair of the Permits and Enforcement
- 11 Committee. He will give a brief report.
- 12 BOARD MEMBER PAPARIAN: Thank you, Madam Chair.
- 13 As Chair of the Permitting and Enforcement
- 14 Committee and the Environmental Community Representative
- 15 on the Board, I have been very involved in this issue.
- 16 Sometimes it feels like my staff and I have been working
- 17 on little else. Well, maybe tires. But we have been
- 18 working quite a bit on this.
- 19 Before we get started on the issue, I thought I
- 20 should remind the Board that we have three options when we
- 21 ultimately deal with this permit. One would be to concur
- 22 with the permit. One would be to not concur with the
- 23 permit, in which case the law calls on us to specify
- 24 certain reasons for not concurring. And I think our
- 25 council can help us there, if needed. And then the final

1 option is if we do neither of the first two. If there are

- 2 not four votes either way, the permit would be sent back
- 3 to the City of Los Angeles Local Enforcement Agency for
- 4 them to finalize dealing with the issuance of the permit.
- 5 Since the February 13th workshop that we held in
- 6 Sun Valley, my advisor, Kit Cole, and P&E staff,
- 7 Mark de Bie have attended meetings between the community
- 8 and Waste Management. There have been two all-day
- 9 meetings. They have focused on CEQA issues, capacity,
- 10 aesthetic considerations, ground water, and I believe
- 11 other issues of the Bradley Landfill.
- 12 Waste Management provided the meeting facilities
- 13 and technical consultants for the meetings with the
- 14 community, as well as people who could answer questions
- 15 and provide copies of the materials that were requested by
- 16 the community.
- 17 There has been no shortage of media interest in
- 18 the issue. I think there have been some pretty regular
- 19 stories in the Daily News and elsewhere on this matter.
- 20 Much of the work on this issue has been done by
- 21 Board staff and Kit Cole, as I mentioned. But much more
- 22 has, I know, been done by the Sun Valley community, by
- 23 Waste Management, by Council Member Galanter, by the
- 24 legislators who we're going to hear from shortly.
- 25 But I do want to emphasize we've been taking this

1 issue very seriously, and our P&E staff and my staff have

- 2 been working very hard on it.
- 3 There are issues that have come up involving
- 4 public outreach, involving access to information,
- 5 involving environmental justice, and I think all of these
- 6 have been part of the discussions that have been taking
- 7 place.
- 8 I'm very hopeful that the interactions that have
- 9 been started between the community and Waste Management
- 10 can continue, and I'm hopeful that there will be positive
- 11 results from those discussions.
- 12 And I know that there are some folks who have
- 13 come a long way from Sun Valley today, and I want to make
- 14 sure we give them enough time to make their presentations
- 15 and allow us to hear whatever remaining issues there might
- 16 be before we ultimately make our decisions.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you,
- 18 Mr. Paparian.
- 19 I might say that, first of all, I enjoyed very
- 20 much the public -- not the public meeting, but the
- 21 workshop that we held in Sun Valley and appreciated all
- 22 the participation. And I think all the Board members that
- 23 were present really appreciated hearing the different
- 24 perspectives.
- 25 I did receive a letter from Assemblymember

1 Montanez, and there were a number of questions that I'm

- 2 not sure can be fully answered, and there was a request to
- 3 continue it to the April Board meeting. It's my
- 4 understanding that if we do that, the clock -- the time
- 5 will run out. But we are having an April 9th special
- 6 emergency meeting, and we could answer your questions
- 7 fully and then have this hearing at that time.
- 8 But what I want to do is I want to make sure the
- 9 people who came up -- and I want to hear from the Senator
- 10 and Assemblywoman Montanez and get a brief update from
- 11 Mr. Leary. But my inclination right now is that we might
- 12 be postponing it because you raised some very serious
- 13 questions that we want to answer.
- So with that, Mr. Leary.
- 15 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LEARY: Madam Chair, thank you
- 16 very much. Good afternoon, Members.
- 17 Mark de Bie will do a short staff presentation on
- 18 the Bradley Landfill and remind you of the context, and
- 19 then we'll go to public comment.
- 20 MR. DeBIE: Thank you very much. Mark de Bie
- 21 with Permitting and Inspection.
- 22 Thank you, Member Paparian, for shortening my
- 23 presentation even more with giving the updates.
- 24 Appreciate that.
- One thing I wanted to add to what you indicated

- 1 was that in staff's participation in those follow-up
- 2 meetings to the February 13th meeting, we found that it
- 3 was very effective in facilitating the sharing of
- 4 information among the community, ourselves, as well as the
- 5 other individuals that were attending those meetings,
- 6 including local and state government representatives and
- 7 other regulatory agencies, as well as the LEA.
- 8 The proposed permit revision for the Bradley
- 9 Landfill will basically rectify several inconsistencies
- 10 between the current landfill operations and those
- 11 described in the permit that was last revised in 1998. It
- 12 also adds clarification about the limits and takes care of
- 13 some ambiguous language in the current permitting
- 14 documents.
- The proposed permit addresses basically height,
- 16 capacity, total, as well as disposal acreage, final fill
- 17 plan configuration, and estimated closure date.
- 18 I can provide you additional details, but I think
- 19 staff will ask to defer that until after testimony.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you very
- 21 much.
- 22 Senator Alarcon, would you like to address us?
- 23 Welcome.
- 24 SENATOR ALARCON: Good afternoon.
- 25 First of all, let me thank the Board for

1 conducting the hearing -- I should say the informational

- 2 meeting in the San Fernando Valley and Sun Valley and Sun
- 3 Valley Middle School. I think the one thing that was
- 4 learned from that hearing is that people are very
- 5 passionate about this issue, whether you're for or against
- 6 it. But it speaks to the importance of the decisions made
- 7 by this body and how critical it is that you have a full
- 8 understanding of the issues related to the Bradley
- 9 Landfill Expansion.
- 10 However, I would also challenge you to more fully
- 11 understand the nature of environmental justice.
- 12 Environmental justice is not a notion of a simple act or a
- 13 single act. It's a notion of a conglomeration of acts
- 14 that have been imposed on a community.
- 15 In this case you're talking about an industrial
- 16 area, an area that has not only been impacted by the
- 17 concentration of metal-related industries; aerospace,
- 18 railroad tracks, and the scenario of high concentration of
- 19 landfills -- I've said this many times. When I was a kid,
- 20 I could ride my bike in five minutes in any direction and
- 21 hit a landfill. That's an absolute fact. Although
- 22 depending on which direction I go, I might have to pedal a
- 23 little faster.
- 24 The other major negative impact on the Sun Valley
- 25 community is that Burbank Airport is just south of this

1 particular site, and the planes land almost directly over

- 2 the residential that is also negatively impacted by the
- 3 landfill.
- 4 I don't need to speak of -- an industrial area
- 5 requires a lot of truck traffic. And that means that Sun
- 6 Valley is an area -- in fact, when I was on the AQMD, we
- 7 actually conducted special monitoring of the air in that
- 8 area, and as a Board member, I specifically asked to have
- 9 it concentrated in Sun Valley. And, indeed, we found that
- 10 there was a concentration of negative environmental
- 11 impacts in the air.
- 12 On top of all that, we've most recently found out
- 13 that there's radioactivity in the leachate that is leaking
- 14 from the Waste Management Landfill at Bradley. 22 sites,
- 15 landfills, now test high for radiation according to the
- 16 L.A. Times article. And, in fact, Bradley exceeded
- 17 recommendation of levels of gross beta radiation.
- And so, first of all, I think that this Board's
- 19 responsibility transcends the specific responsibilities
- 20 relative to the site itself. And what I mean by that is
- 21 that there are federal guidelines that direct that your
- 22 responsibilities, in fact, include environmental justice.
- 23 And in dealing with the issue of environmental justice,
- 24 you cannot make a decision in a vacuum. You must consider
- 25 the other factors in the community.

- 1 In this case, Sun Valley is a cesspool of
- 2 environmental degradation as a result of the high
- 3 concentration of industrial use. I'm not suggesting that
- 4 Waste Management is to blame for all of that degradation.
- 5 Notwithstanding that, it is your responsibility to
- 6 consider it all relative to any new decisions that have to
- 7 be made with regard to it. So it is your responsibility.
- 8 It is your mission, in fact, to protect the environment
- 9 for the public's health and safety. That's why you were
- 10 created. Expanding landfills without due diligence is a
- 11 contradiction to your mission and may be a dereliction of
- 12 your duty. We all know the hazards related to landfills.
- 13 They're even more heightened now with the awareness of
- 14 dumping of radioactive waste.
- 15 I believe staff erred in their determination that
- 16 this landfill should be -- this grading permit should be
- 17 validated. I believe there is severe question as to
- 18 whether the landfill does meet the state minimum
- 19 standards. Bradley has violated those standards 35 times
- 20 since 1998. I don't know how any reasonable person could
- 21 say that a landfill that has violated the minimum --
- 22 violated its permit 35 times in such a short span of time
- 23 can stand up to the state minimum standards. I believe
- 24 staff is wrong on this point.
- 25 Secondly, we believe the regrade is an expansion

- 1 and it will allow for an increase in capacity on the
- 2 specific site, recognizing that some of that is expansion
- 3 that would be used at the site next door otherwise.
- 4 But because the expansion will cause damage to
- 5 the environment and the public's health and safety, I
- 6 absolutely believe that all other alternatives need to be
- 7 explored before granting any such expansion.
- 8 Specifically, I believe the City of Los Angeles was number
- 9 one in error when they granted the original permit.
- 10 Secondly, I believe there is new information that
- 11 must be fully explored by the LEA. Your options to refer
- 12 this matter back to the LEA I think would be appropriate
- 13 in this case. Let the City of Los Angeles review this in
- 14 the context of the new findings related to radioactive
- 15 materials at that site in particular, as well as any other
- 16 site that they may find it. But I think that to grant
- 17 this permit is to turn a blind eye to the new findings
- 18 relative to radioactive waste.
- 19 Now I've gone public, and I'm angry at the
- 20 Department of Health Services for setting such a low
- 21 threshold regarding radioactive waste. Let me say even
- 22 Waste Management supported Senator Romero's bill to lower
- 23 that threshold. But in doing so, in saying that you
- 24 believe that that threshold is too high, then you cannot
- 25 approve this permit knowing that the City of Los Angeles

1 did not consider the impact of radioactive materials at

- 2 the site. And until they are able to conduct the full
- 3 environmental reviews necessary to make a firm
- 4 determination with regard to radioactive materials, I
- 5 believe it is wrong for this Board to approve. I believe
- 6 it also may be illegal and actionable by other parties,
- 7 and certainly by the community.
- 8 And so on the basis of all of these things, I
- 9 think that, number one, you cannot support staff's finding
- 10 that the state minimum standards are consistent. In fact,
- 11 if anything, you should find it's inconsistent. Secondly,
- 12 I don't believe that the LEA has the authority to tell
- 13 Waste Management that they can go ahead and move forward
- 14 with a permit notwithstanding your authority. In fact,
- 15 that's exactly what they did. They told them to go ahead,
- 16 as if their permit were approved, when state law says that
- 17 you are the only ones that can tell them to move forward
- 18 with a permit. I believe they have violated the law. The
- 19 LEA has violated the law by directing Waste Management to
- 20 perform in accordance with the approval by the City of
- 21 Los Angeles because you're the only ones that can grant
- 22 that permit.
- 23 So for a year and a half they have acted as if
- 24 the permit were approved. You never acted on it. I don't
- 25 think they have the right to do that. Now two-thirds of

- 1 the permit -- two-thirds of the capacity that was
- 2 requested in the permit has already been done. Now, if
- 3 that doesn't usurp your authority, I don't know what does.
- 4 So I don't know how this Board can allow local
- 5 jurisdictions to unilaterally take your authority away and
- 6 approve something, ignoring your responsibilities, your
- 7 authority, your statutory-delegated authority, and just
- 8 tell them, "Go ahead and operate. It's going to be fine."
- 9 I don't think they can do that, and I think you should
- 10 send this back and tell them with a very strong message
- 11 they need to rethink what they did and order them to stop
- 12 allowing Bradley to fill in accordance with a permit that
- 13 isn't fully authorized because you have not acted on it.
- 14 So the third final issue is, of course, this
- 15 whole issue of radioactive materials. I do not know how
- 16 you can approve a permit, knowing what you know today,
- 17 that you didn't know six months ago. The City of
- 18 Los Angeles didn't know it. I don't know how the City of
- 19 Los Angeles can come before you or send you information
- 20 requesting it. In fact, the City of Los Angeles should
- 21 have pulled back their request because they know that they
- 22 did not look at this issue of radioactivity.
- Now, I'm not suggesting -- I'm not claiming the
- 24 sky is falling. This is low level radioactive waste. We
- 25 have an issue. There is a debate ongoing right now about

1 what the state's role in this should be, whether the state

- 2 should have tougher standards than the federal government.
- 3 And certainly I agree. But notwithstanding that, don't
- 4 you think you ought to know what those impacts are? Did
- 5 you look at those impacts? Did you look at radioactivity
- 6 specifically relative to this particular site? Or are you
- 7 going to turn a blind eye to that? Are you going to just
- 8 assume that everything's going to be fine and that this
- 9 whole argument about radioactivity is just some specious
- 10 claim by some ill-knowing organizations out there. I
- 11 don't believe it is. I think this is substantive,
- 12 scientific information that is new to the process, and I
- 13 would urge you to at least send this back to the City of
- 14 Los Angeles and demand that they look at a different
- 15 process and ensure that the public is heard.
- 16 Oh, by the way, I forgot to mention, there was no
- 17 outreach to the residential community. In fact, the
- 18 immediately adjacent -- there's no documented public
- 19 outreach. Now I know that Bradley has communicated with
- 20 the handful of residents that live immediately adjacent to
- 21 the landfill. But there was no public hearing on the
- 22 impacts to them.
- I don't think that's right. I don't know that
- 24 there's any specific law, but I think the mandate of good
- 25 conscious tells you that there should have been that kind

- 1 of input from those residents.
- 2 With that, I would urge that you deny the permit,
- 3 number one. Or, number two, even if you don't deny the
- 4 permit, I would ask you and plead with you to send this
- 5 back to the City of Los Angeles. I believe that the City
- 6 of Los Angeles will come up with a better plan in
- 7 conjunction with the interest of the community, in
- 8 conjunction with the interest, in fact, even of Waste
- 9 Management because I believe there's a better way to do
- 10 this. And this Board, I believe, has a responsibility to
- 11 find that way.
- 12 And, again, I want to thank you so much for
- 13 coming out to the community. They very much felt a part
- 14 of government when you came out. But don't now shun your
- 15 responsibility to listen to what they said. The vast
- 16 majority of people, residents of that community, do not
- 17 want this expansion, do not want this regrade. They want
- 18 to see this facility cleaned up. They want trees. They
- 19 want reasonable mitigations. They want to know what's
- 20 going to happen when it closes. Give them that
- 21 opportunity to work in good faith with the landfill
- 22 operators and the City of Los Angeles to create an
- 23 entirely better opportunity for a better environment at
- 24 that particular site. Thank you very much.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you,

- 1 Senator.
- 2 And as I mentioned to you at the workshop, this
- 3 Board takes environmental justice very seriously, as well
- 4 as Cal/EPA as a whole. We're very concerned, and I'm very
- 5 concerned with finding out the answers to the radioactive
- 6 waste question. But I do want to make sure at least that
- 7 people that have traveled up here get a chance to speak.
- 8 Assemblymember Montanez, welcome.
- 9 ASSEMBLYMEMBER MONTANEZ: Thank you. Good
- 10 afternoon and thank you, Madam Chair, Board members, for
- 11 allowing me to be here today.
- 12 And I have to start off by saying thank you to
- 13 those of you that attended the meeting in Sun Valley. I
- 14 think that was a very significant decision that you made
- 15 to actually go forward with Senator Richard Alarcon's
- 16 request to have a meeting in Sun Valley because, as you
- 17 saw, there were several hundred people that attended that
- 18 meeting and several hundred more that probably would have
- 19 been there, but it was a very rainy day.
- 20 As you saw, it's an issue that is extremely
- 21 important to those of us that live in the Northeast
- 22 San Fernando Valley and to the residents of that area. If
- 23 there's any issue that people are talking about right now
- 24 that they're concerned about, it's how do we improve the
- 25 environment?

1 Those of you that also had the opportunity -- I

- 2 know formerly Assemblymember Carl Washington and I took a
- 3 trip through Sun Valley. We spent several hours there
- 4 with Waste Management not only looking at the landfill,
- 5 but looking at the entire area of Sun Valley and really
- 6 trying to understand why people are so upset; why
- 7 residents are so concerned about this issue; why there's
- 8 so much community opposition. And I really do encourage
- 9 those of you who have not had the opportunity to go down
- 10 there -- I always make myself available as does Waste
- 11 Management doing everything we possibly can to make you
- 12 understand -- you see it for yourself how significant this
- 13 issue is for us in the 39th Assembly District in the
- 14 northeast part of the San Fernando Valley.
- 15 I'm here also to ask you to delay a decision on
- 16 this permit. And the request comes, I think, from being
- 17 exposed to more and more information as we continue to
- 18 study this issue.
- 19 Some of you, like I, are new too. I just got
- 20 elected to the State Assembly. I was former mayor of the
- 21 City of San Fernando. First time that I represent the Sun
- 22 Valley area. For some of you it's the first time that you
- 23 are actually appointed to the Waste Board, and I think
- 24 together we're learning a lot about this issue. The more
- 25 we learn about this issue, the more we discover and the

- 1 more questions are raised.
- 2 So I actually have several concerns, and my
- 3 concerns focus on several major issues. One, we've all
- 4 read the articles and seen reports on the credible
- 5 evidence that exists that radioactive waste has been
- 6 disposed in Bradley Canyon Landfill at one point or
- 7 another. Before even Waste Management was owner of that
- 8 site, there is very credible evidence that suggests that
- 9 radioactive material has been dumped at that site. We
- 10 need to really look at that issue very seriously. We need
- 11 to understand what the impacts will be to a community if
- 12 there has been radioactive material that has been dumped
- 13 there.
- 14 I'm aware that the State Water Resources Control
- 15 Board has recently conducted a study of impacts of the
- 16 disposal of radioactive waste in many of the landfills --
- 17 or several of the landfills including Bradley Landfill.
- 18 And until the final results come in on this landfill
- 19 radioactivity study, I think there's really no way for us
- 20 to ensure that the residents that live near Bradley
- 21 Landfill are not at risk, that the employees that work
- 22 there are not at risk, and that the groundwater is not at
- 23 risk. I think that's a very serious question that needs
- 24 to be answered. We need to continue to look at the
- 25 studies. We need to continue to conduct further

1 evaluation as to the impacts of that radioactive waste.

- 2 Preliminary results of the study indicate that
- 3 leachate from the Bradley Canyon Landfill exceeded the
- 4 maximum contaminate level for gross beta particles by a
- 5 factor of nine. By exceeding that maximum contaminate
- 6 level for gross beta particles, one, I would say that most
- 7 residents have no idea that this has been the case. And
- 8 even further, very few residents and very few of us
- 9 actually know, well, what does that mean? What does that
- 10 mean to our health? What does that mean to our safety?
- 11 What does that mean to the kids that are going to school
- 12 across the street and the people that are living in that
- 13 area?
- 14 That community in Sun Valley for many decades and
- 15 for many generations has lived in an area where there has
- 16 been serious contamination, not only from the landfill
- 17 there, you know. At some point, you know -- at one point
- 18 there was 16 operating landfills in my assembly district,
- 19 a lot of rock quarries, a lot of auto wreckage dismantling
- 20 sites. You take aerial photos, and you'll see this big --
- 21 just sections of oil on top of the ground. So we have to
- 22 be able to look at the cumulative impacts. And I really
- 23 encourage us to look at what the cumulative impacts are of
- 24 continuing to grant permits without very strict
- 25 enforcement, very strict regulations.

1 You know, we went and we toured the site. Not

- 2 only did I go along with Mr. Washington, but later on I
- 3 took my entire staff. People from Sacramento, my
- 4 district, staff, all of us went, and we took a tour of the
- 5 landfill. And when we were there, we noticed that there's
- 6 problems with the management of the leachate and storm
- 7 water collection at the landfill. Those of you that have
- 8 seen the site, but those have you that have not visited
- 9 the site, there's a storm water collection area where
- 10 there's an unlined earthen berm. It's unlined, so I think
- 11 there's serious concerns just within -- very serious
- 12 potential health impacts and environmental impacts that
- 13 could potentially exist from that situation because you
- 14 have water that's collecting there and going straight into
- 15 the groundwater. And we don't know how far it's going,
- 16 whether or not it's contaminated. We need to look at
- 17 that. We need to study that.
- I have had discussions with Waste Management. I
- 19 have asked for different studies that have been conducted.
- 20 I have asked for different testing that's already been
- 21 conducted on the water, on the soil, on the air quality.
- 22 These are all very serious issues. And until we have, you
- 23 know, the scientific studies, you know, the analysis of
- 24 what is actually occurring at that site, we cannot grant a
- 25 permit to move forward.

1 And so I'm hear again asking that we postpone

- 2 this decision, that we work with the lead agency, that we
- 3 work with Waste Management, that we work together as a
- 4 Board. I'm here as the Assemblymember for that area
- 5 pleading you to please postpone this decision. Let's wait
- 6 until we have these questions answered. Let's seriously
- 7 take into consideration all the people that live in that
- 8 community.
- 9 Those of you that were there saw the kids come
- 10 forward complaining about, you know, issues. You know,
- 11 they can't breathe when they're out playing. They have --
- 12 their nose bleeds because they're out there playing.
- 13 Families coming out and complaining about the smell. And
- 14 it's not to say that it's coming from the landfill. But
- 15 it is important to understand that because of everything
- 16 that's going on in that community, we have to analyze the
- 17 community as a whole.
- 18 Which leads me to my last point, that I ask you
- 19 seriously also to consider the issue of environmental
- 20 justice. And I do appreciate the fact, Madam Chair, that
- 21 you did state at the hearing that this is something that
- 22 the Board considers. And I know that many of you do take
- 23 that issue into very serious consideration. And that
- 24 makes me feel, you know, a lot better because I do believe
- 25 that this is a serious issue of environmental justice for

- 1 a community that is a poor, working class, blue collar
- 2 community. The residents there care a lot about what's
- 3 going on. They're very much involved. They want to know
- 4 more about what's going on.
- 5 I'm so happy to hear we're having these workshops
- 6 back in the district, that either the company along with
- 7 the Board and along with those of us that represent the
- 8 area are doing everything possible to educate the
- 9 community so we have the information.
- 10 So finally, you know, I just want to say again
- 11 that I do look forward to working with you. I think that
- 12 many of us -- or many of you that are Board members and I
- 13 have developed strong relationships. I do look forward to
- 14 developing stronger and stronger relationships, that we
- 15 look at this issue in a very thorough way, in a very
- 16 detailed way because at the end of the day what we're
- 17 talking about, we're talking about protecting children.
- 18 We're talking about protecting a community that for too
- 19 long has had many issues of environmental injustice.
- 20 So thank you again.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you very
- 22 much for coming. We very much appreciate it. The
- 23 questions that you raised in your letter are very -- I
- 24 think I can speak for every member of the Board. We want
- 25 to get answers to these.

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1 And also, I will speak with Art Baggett, the
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- 2 State Water Board Chair. We have had one joint meeting
- 3 with them, and this seems to me this would be something we
- 4 really need to discuss with them. So thank you for
- 5 bringing that up also.
- 6 Ms. Peace.
- 7 BOARD MEMBER PEACE: You're asking us here today
- 8 to put this -- postpone this until the April 9th Board
- 9 meeting. And in order for us to address these concerns --
- 10 I have no opposition to doing that. What I want to make
- 11 sure today is we are hearing all of your issues and
- 12 concerns because if we put this over to the April 9th
- 13 Board meeting, we're getting real close to the deadline.
- 14 We need to hear all your concerns and stuff today so we
- 15 have time to look at them before the April 9th Board
- 16 meeting. Because if something else comes up April 9th we
- 17 haven't heard before, you're going to be right to the
- 18 deadline there.
- 19 I just want to make sure any concerns, questions
- 20 that you have that you bring them up today so they can be
- 21 addressed by the people at Waste Management and we have
- 22 time to look into everything that you're concerned about.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Would you like to
- 24 speak to that?
- 25 ASSEMBLYMEMBER MONTANEZ: So the main priorities

- 1 for us are, one, to look at the radioactive waste, the
- 2 leachate collection and the management, the storm water
- 3 runoff, the landfill gas control, the regrade methodology
- 4 as -- if the regrade were to happen, how would it occur?
- 5 You know, we have asked Waste Management to explain to us
- 6 the process.
- 7 You know, at one point we understood that trash
- 8 was actually going to be taken out of the unlined portion
- 9 of the landfill and moved over to the lined portion. But
- 10 then it's my understanding from a conversation from
- 11 Mr. Stoddard that's not going to be the case. So we want
- 12 to make sure we understand what the methodology is going
- 13 to be if the regrade were to go through. We don't want to
- 14 have any kind of trash exposed. If trash is going to be
- 15 moved around, if some of this trash is radioactive trash,
- 16 how do we -- we need to understand what methodology is
- 17 going to be used.
- 18 And also the issue -- I know in the staff report
- 19 there is no comments or analysis of the environmental
- 20 justice issue. I would like that issue to be addressed.
- 21 We need to look at the cumulative impacts of everything
- 22 that's going on in that neighborhood. So those would be
- 23 the main priorities.
- 24 We've outlined those in the letter. We'll be
- 25 submitting, you know, after the hearing today. And after

1 what we're hearing, some of the other comments, we're

- 2 going to be continuing to give our input.
- 3 I do thank you again for listening to these
- 4 concerns and for working with us to make sure that we get
- 5 answers to all these questions.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: And again I will
- 7 assure you that we will postpone it to the April 9th Board
- 8 meeting. But I do want to hear the speakers that have
- 9 traveled so far.
- 10 Ms. Peace.
- 11 BOARD MEMBER PEACE: I do want to address maybe
- 12 an environmental justice concern here.
- 13 Senator Alarcon -- I see he made a quick getaway
- 14 again. But he did bring up, you know, this is an
- 15 industrial area, not only a dump. There's dumps that have
- 16 been closed. There's industrial sandpits and gravel pits
- 17 and wrecking yards. He's right. The area is a cesspool.
- 18 But as you know, the Board did not site any of those
- 19 things. That was all done by your City Council. And they
- 20 did not do a very good job with your city. And I really
- 21 feel bad about that.
- Hopefully we can work on some of those problems.
- 23 And I think Waste Management here with them being in your
- 24 community can help you with some things. We can work on
- 25 some things where maybe part of the tipping fee could go

- 1 to your area to do the sidewalks, to put in the trees.
- 2 Maybe we can work on a plan through your City Council,
- 3 with the Senator, with the Assemblymember, with the
- 4 counsel that may be -- I know at the hearing a lot of
- 5 people say, "How come other areas don't have a dump? How
- 6 come Westwood? How come Bel Air? How come they don't
- 7 have a dump?" Well, I say why can't we work on something
- 8 where the people that live in those areas maybe pay a
- 9 little bit more on their trash bill to go towards these
- 10 host communities. And maybe that money can help those
- 11 communities build some parks, build some baseball fields,
- 12 build some soccer fields, you know, put in some trees and
- 13 clean up that neighborhood.
- 14 I think maybe here you have an opportunity to
- 15 actually work something out, especially with all the
- 16 cities and everything being in such a budget crunch right
- 17 now. You want these things to happen, but where is the
- 18 money going to come from? I think if we start looking at
- 19 some things like this, there might be an answer there.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you,
- 21 Ms. Peace.
- 22 Mike Mohaier, followed by Cynthia Rodriguez.
- 23 I'm going to change the order a little bit
- 24 because I see some of these people are going to waive
- 25 their testimony. It will be Mike Mohaier followed by

- 1 Carol Ann Ziehler.
- 2 Mike Mohaier.
- 3 MR. MOHAIER: Good afternoon, Madam Chair,
- 4 Members of the Board. My name is Mike Mohaier, and today
- 5 I'm before you on behalf of the Los Angeles County
- 6 Integrated Waste Management Task Force. They are just
- 7 delivering a letter that county counsel wrote on behalf of
- 8 the Task Force. And it's -- I would like to read it for
- 9 the record.
- The letter is dated March 17th, 2002.
- "Integrated Waste Management Board. Subject:
- 12 Agenda Item 31, Consideration of Revised Full
- 13 Solid Waste Facilities Permit for Bradley
- 14 Landfill West and West Extension Los Angeles
- 15 County.
- 16 Dear Board Members: This letter is submitted
- on behalf of the County of Los Angeles Department
- of Public Works as a staff to the Los Angeles
- 19 County Integrated Waste Management Task Force
- 20 regarding the finding of conformance contained at
- 21 page 5 of the staff report for Agenda Item 31.
- 22 Item 31 is identified as 'Consideration of
- 23 Revised Solid -- Revised Full Solid Waste City
- 24 Permit for Bradley Landfill West and West
- 25 Extension Los Angeles County.'

1	The Staff Analysis section appears to
2	conclude that since the location of Bradley
3	Landfill West and West Extension was identified
4	in the Los Angeles County Countywide Siting
5	Element, the proposed permit to allow additional
6	capacity is automatically in conformance with the
7	Siting Element. The additional capacity now
8	contemplated by the permit before your Board
9	would expand the capacity of the landfill beyond
10	what is contemplated in the Siting Element. This
11	additional capacity constitutes an expansion of
12	the facility.
13	California Code of Regulations, Title 14,
14	Section 18756.1(a) requires that every Siting
15	Element contain a description of each proposed
16	expansion of the existing solid waste facilities.
17	Section 7.5 of the County Siting Element contains
18	descriptions of landfills in Los Angeles County
19	proposed for expansion. Bradley is not among the
20	landfills described. Since the proposed
21	expansion to allow additional capacity appears
22	not to be contemplated by the County Siting
23	Element, the question is whether the criteria
24	established in Title 14, Code of Regulations
25	Section 18756 have ever been addressed relative

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1 to the proposed additional capacity.
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2	A key function of any Siting Element is to
3	ensure that the criteria established in Title 14,
4	Section 18756(a) is confirmed for the expansion
5	of the existing landfills. Pursuant to Section
6	18756(b), the Siting Element contains a process
7	to confirm that the criteria set forth in
8	Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations,
9	Section 18756(a) have been considered. Since the
10	impact from additional capacity is not
11	contemplated by the Siting Element and the
12	criteria in Section 18756.1(a) has not been
13	addressed, it would not be appropriate for your
14	Board to make a finding of conformance with the
15	Siting Element at this time.
16	On behalf of the Task Force, we respectfully
17	request that your Board consider objecting to the
18	issuance of the proposed permit until such time
19	as additional capacity is evaluated pursuant to
20	the Countywide Siting Element to confirm that
21	criteria set forth in Title 14 of the Code of
22	Regulations 18756(a) have been considered.

Very truly yours, Lloyd W. Pellman, County

Counsel. Signed by Peter Gutierrez, Senior

Deputy Counsel, Public Works Division."

- 1 Thank you.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you,
- 3 Mr. Mohaier.
- 4 Legal I assume got a copy of this and will get
- 5 back to us on it. I'm sorry. We have Mr. Paparian and
- 6 then Mr. Jones.
- 7 BOARD MEMBER PAPARIAN: Thank you, Madam Chair.
- 8 I actually would like to hear a brief response
- 9 from our legal staff.
- 10 But, Mr. Mohaier, just so I understand this, what
- 11 you're saying here is you think that this expansion needs
- 12 to be okayed by your Solid Waste Task Force, your
- 13 Integrated Waste Management Task Force?
- MR. MOHAIER: Mr. Paparian, just correcting, not
- 15 twisting the verbiage around.
- 16 The Task Force have provided a number of letters
- 17 to your Board indicating the process of Siting Element.
- 18 And what your Board regulation today -- and indicates your
- 19 regulation is in the book. So your counsel wrote back
- 20 that they do not want to talk to Mike Mohaier, that I'm
- 21 engineer from the Department of Public Works Force. So
- 22 now you have the formal response from the county counsel,
- 23 legal counsel that does not agree that this is the case.
- 24 So all I'm saying --
- 25 BOARD MEMBER PAPARIAN: Okay.

1 MR. MOHAIER: No. Mr. Paparian, please do not

- 2 twist the stuff around. I'm asking -- what the Task Force
- 3 is asking your Board, are you intending to enforce your
- 4 own regulations that the Siting Element had to be prepared
- 5 for and complied with? Yes or no. That is the question.
- 6 The question is not Bradley -- and please do not change
- 7 the issue.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you.
- 9 BOARD MEMBER PAPARIAN: Sorry. I'm not trying to
- 10 twist anything. I have read all your correspondence.
- 11 I've listened to your testimony --
- 12 MR. MOHAIER: Mr. Paparian, as I indicated in my
- 13 e-mail to you, this is not a Mike Mohaier correspondence.
- 14 This is a regional body that has a Board appointee from
- 15 the City of L.A., has Board appointee from the League of
- 16 California City. I am just a staff to that body. And so
- 17 I do not appreciate you make the issue personal. You have
- 18 to comply with the law. You are sitting over here to
- 19 comply with the law. You're sitting over here to comply
- 20 with the regulation that your Board adopted. And that is
- 21 what the Task Force is addressing.
- 22 Beyond that, I don't have any other response.
- 23 Thank you.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Mr. Mohaier --
- 25 BOARD MEMBER PAPARIAN: Can I just --

- 1 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Mr. Paparian.
- 2 BOARD MEMBER PAPARIAN: I'm trying to get a
- 3 question answered. I'm sorry if Mr. Mohaier thinks I'm
- 4 getting personal about it.
- 5 Mr. Mohaier, if you don't want to answer this
- 6 question, that's fine. I'm just trying -- I'm trying to
- 7 understand all these things.
- 8 MR. MOHAIER: Mr. Paparian, you have a letter
- 9 from the county counsel on behalf of the Task Force, and
- 10 that is the response.
- BOARD MEMBER WASHINGTON: Hold on. Hold on.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Just a moment,
- 13 Mr. Washington. I can handle this.
- 14 Mr. Mohaier, this letter is a new letter, and it
- 15 was dated March 17th. I'd like for counsel to look at
- 16 this letter, and we will get back to Mr. Mohaier.
- 17 And then Mr. Jones was next.
- 18 BOARD MEMBER PAPARIAN: I wasn't quite done. Can
- 19 I just put my question on the record? If Mr. Mohaier
- 20 chooses not to answer it, that's fine.
- 21 My question is whether the Integrated Waste
- 22 Management Task Force of Los Angeles County believes that
- 23 this permit needs to go through their Task Force for
- 24 approval?
- 25 MR. MOHAIER: I would suggest that you read the

- 1 letter that I just handed out.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you,
- 3 Mr. Mohaier.
- 4 Mr. Jones.
- 5 BOARD MEMBER JONES: Madam Chair, I think I'll
- 6 defer to your direction.
- 7 But just for history for a couple of Board
- 8 members. The issue of -- this issue about Siting Elements
- 9 was handled by the full Board. Mr. Mohaier was part of
- 10 the working group that worked on this issue. He may not
- 11 have agreed with the results, but it, in fact, was a
- 12 public meeting, right, when we talked about what is
- 13 conformance as far as Siting Elements. And it was, for
- 14 lack of a better description, the location of a facility
- 15 and expansion became the expansion outside of the
- 16 permitted boundaries, those that had already been
- 17 delineated. And that was for -- right? I mean, that was
- 18 for the purposes of just what we're talking about.
- Now, some people didn't agree. The Board
- 20 actually did agree. So I'll let counsel talk to this
- 21 issue. But that has been -- this has been a problem with
- 22 L.A. County and the interpretation. But, in fact, it was
- 23 decided by this full Board to make sure that we were
- 24 consistent with the law.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you,

1 Mr. Jones. I just -- this is a new letter by a new

- 2 person. I want it looked at.
- 3 And Mr. Medina.
- 4 BOARD MEMBER MEDINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I
- 5 just wanted to say to Mr. Mohaier, whether the letter came
- 6 from the attorney or yourself, I just want to let you know
- 7 that, you know, some of us on the Board, you know, hold
- 8 your information in high regard -- correspondence in a
- 9 very high regard, and we give it serious consideration.
- 10 And so thank you for your letter and for anything else,
- 11 any other light that you might shed on this subject.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you,
- 13 Mr. Medina.
- 14 Carol Ann Ziehler. I'm sorry. I'm probably
- 15 mispronouncing it. Welcome. From the East Valley
- 16 Coalition in Sun Valley. Welcome to our Board meeting.
- 17 MS. ZIEHLER: Thank you, Madam Chair and Board
- 18 members. I'm Carol Ziehler.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Ziehler.
- 20 MS. ZIEHLER: Right. Thank you. And I'm
- 21 President of the East Valley Coalition, and I have sent
- 22 most of this information to you by e-mail. And then I
- 23 handed a letter signed to your secretary.
- On behalf of the East Valley Coalition,
- 25 residents, and business owners in the community of

- 1 Sun Valley, I wish to express our sincere gratitude and
- 2 appreciation to all the Waste Board Members and staff in
- 3 making the trek Friday the 13th to our community to listen
- 4 to us on the Bradley Landfill 1998 regrade permit. We
- 5 appreciate the time and resources it took to accomplish
- 6 this task. Special note should be made to Mark de Bie and
- 7 especially Kit Cole for their patience and fortitude
- 8 throughout this process. We hope that the February 13th
- 9 visit was just the beginning of a more personal
- 10 relationship between your Board and the constituents here
- 11 and elsewhere.
- 12 Due to time constraints at the meeting, a request
- 13 from the East Valley Coalition for a follow-up meeting was
- 14 held February 28th, which included representatives from
- 15 your Board, City Planning, LEA, County Task Force, Mayor
- 16 Hahn, Councilwoman Ruth Galanter, Assemblyman Cindy
- 17 Montanez, L.A. Metro, Waste Management, Neighborhood Legal
- 18 Services, the North Valley Coalition, and the East Valley
- 19 Coalition.
- The purpose of this meeting was to review
- 21 questions raised by the East Valley Coalition and the
- 22 community concerning the regrade project or permit. In
- 23 spite of a full day's session, issues pertaining to the
- 24 California Environmental Quality Act, CEQA, were not
- 25 addressed.

1 We held another meeting on March the 12th to

- 2 specifically address these issues. A number of
- 3 irregularities emerged. One, the 1975 and 1977 EIR's
- 4 clearly and consistently declared the intent of the
- 5 projects for both Bradley West and Bradley West Expansion
- 6 to bring the elevation of the mining operation excavation
- 7 to ground level, plus 12 feet for settlement. This intent
- 8 is repeated at least five to six times in each EIR.
- 9 The total of approximately 38 million cubic yards
- 10 of material that Waste Management contends were disclosed
- 11 in these documents was intended to bring the elevation to
- 12 ground level. How does this same amount create an
- 13 11-story mountain in the middle of our community?
- 14 Number two, subsequent mitigated negative
- 15 declaration for 1986, 1991, and 1996 seem to track minor
- 16 changes such as tonnage increases, hours of operation.
- 17 However, these and other changes were actually described
- 18 in phasing plans that should have been accompanied with
- 19 the MND, the mitigated negative declaration. Now we know
- 20 we can see only the illusion to such plans, but how would
- 21 the community here know? How would we have known?
- 22 The intent of this project description seems to
- 23 be an obscuration of the real project rather than a clear
- 24 disclosure. The intent of CEQA is to clearly disclose
- 25 environmental impacts to the community and decision-makers

1 for assessment and comments. The community surely would

- 2 have commented.
- 3 In short -- I have one other item here. That is
- 4 in your 1986 agenda, a 300-foot buffer was added or
- 5 stipulated to the RA-1 zone on Ralston Avenue to be filled
- 6 with only inert material. Los Angeles City Zoning
- 7 Ordinance Number 172933 requires a 500-foot setback
- 8 requirement, buffer zone, between the disposal area, waste
- 9 boundaries, and the permitted property boundaries for
- 10 certain activities that have the potential to generate
- 11 noise, odors, vibrations such as solid waste and landfill.
- 12 Okay. The buffer no longer exists. And regular landfill
- 13 waste is being deposited within 106 feet from the nearest
- 14 resident. Now, Puente Hills has a 1,000-foot buffer.
- 15 Sunshine landfill has a 500-foot buffer, and Bradley
- 16 Landfill had a 300-foot buffer that just disappeared
- 17 without notice or EIR.
- In short, minor changes in landfill operations
- 19 have accrued over the years that have not been fairly and
- 20 openly disclosed to the public for evaluation. These
- 21 small changes have been considered insignificant by the
- 22 lead agency and the LEA. These changes have been
- 23 cumulatively devastating to this community and never
- 24 admitted, addressed, or mitigated. How could a
- 25 predominately blue collar and low income Latin community

1 know how to comment on these changes without outreach and

- 2 CEQA education?
- 3 Waste Management has depended on the disgruntled
- 4 silence of the community while Planning and the LEA
- 5 considered it a silent assent. Coupled with frequent
- 6 lapses in political representation and local pro-business
- 7 leadership, Sun Valley has spiraled into a cesspool for
- 8 Los Angeles. Meanwhile, the intent and spirit of CEQA
- 9 were subverted, and the community steamed in quiet
- 10 desperation.
- 11 These changes now before the Board including the
- 12 elevation, disposal capacity, acreages, and the closure
- 13 date need to be fairly and openly disclosed to the public
- 14 for evaluation now. Therefore, East Valley Coalition
- 15 respectfully requests that the California Integrated Waste
- 16 Management Board assume the roll of lead agency under the
- 17 California Environmental Quality Act and disclose the
- 18 impacts associated with these changes.
- 19 Additionally, we request that the Board include a
- 20 stipulation in this and future permits, RDSI's or any
- 21 joint technical documents, that the LEA disclose any
- 22 future minor changes, regardless of how minor, and have
- 23 general disclosure and public review and outreach.
- 24 We appreciate this opportunity to comment, and we
- 25 trust in your good judgment. Thank you.

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1 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you very
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- 2 much for coming up and addressing us. We'll take this all
- 3 into consideration.
- 4 MS. ZIEHLER: You're welcome.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: I believe the two
- 6 speakers I had next, Cynthia Rodriguez and Doug Corcoran,
- 7 wanted to waive their speaking since it's my intent to
- 8 have this held over to the April 9th Board meeting.
- 9 Some serious questions have been asked, and I
- 10 want to make sure we have full answers, and I just don't
- 11 think we can. The letter is dated March 17th, and we have
- 12 not had the time to get full answers.
- 13 So, Ms. Tobias, I didn't mean to cut you off
- 14 there. I just thought I want to give you more time to
- 15 look at this letter. Did you have -- did you have
- 16 anything you want --
- 17 CHIEF COUNSEL TOBIAS: No.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Okay. Any Board
- 19 members wish to comment before I close?
- Mr. Paparian.
- 21 BOARD MEMBER PAPARIAN: Thank you. I mean, there
- 22 have been a number of questions raised, and I just want
- 23 to -- including the last one having to do with us taking
- 24 over as lead agency under CEQA, radioactivity questions,
- 25 questions about the buffer, and other things. Does the

1 staff feel that they have the questions and are going to

- 2 be able to provide us some answers on these between now
- 3 and April 9th? I think the reason we're putting this over
- 4 is so we can get the answers.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Absolutely.
- 6 Yeah. We've listed radioactive waste disposal, leachate,
- 7 the storm water runoff, landfill gas control, the full
- 8 disclosure of the details of the regrade project, and the
- 9 buffer question, and the lead agency question.
- 10 Was there anything else?
- 11 BOARD MEMBER PAPARIAN: And I guess the letter,
- 12 which I really couldn't get as much of an explanation as I
- 13 wanted. But I guess the letter --
- 14 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Oh, and the
- 15 letter.
- 16 BOARD MEMBER PAPARIAN: -- speaks for itself. So
- 17 whatever response there would be to that.
- 18 MR. WALKER: Scott Walker, Permitting Enforcement
- 19 Division. Absolutely, yeah. We will record these and
- 20 prepare a response and have it ready for the 9th.
- 21 Absolutely.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you very
- 23 much.
- 24 Any other Board members have questions?
- Ms. Peace.

1 BOARD MEMBER PEACE: I want to make sure it was

- 2 on that list. When she mentioned like the EIR, she said
- 3 past EIR's showed it at ground level plus 12 feet for
- 4 settlement, and now it's this great big hill. You've got
- 5 to look at that also, please.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you,
- 7 Ms. Peace. We will.
- 8 I see no other questions. This is the end of a
- 9 two-day meeting, and I will call for any public comments
- 10 if there are any. Seeing none, this meeting is adjourned.
- 11 Oh, excuse me.
- 12 Ms. Peace.
- 13 BOARD MEMBER PEACE: I was just wondering if
- 14 there's anyone at Waste Management that wanted to try to
- 15 address the radioactivity question. Do you want to do
- 16 that later?
- 17 MR. WHITE: Madam Chair, members of the Board,
- 18 Chuck White with Waste Management.
- 19 Waste Management is concerned as the community is
- 20 about radioactive waste. We have done everything humanly
- 21 possible over the years to try to exclude anything that
- 22 would be regulated as a radioactive material from any of
- 23 our landfills, including Bradley.
- 24 Bradley has a radioactive waste detection system
- 25 at the gate. It's one of the few landfills in the state

- 1 that actually has a detective system to exclude
- 2 radioactive waste. It's sensitive enough to include human
- 3 beings that are undergoing radiation therapy. It detects
- 4 soiled linens that might come in by mistake. We segregate
- 5 those loads. We make sure they go out to the proper
- 6 disposal facilities.
- 7 It's not our intent to be in the radioactive
- 8 waste business. We encourage the State of California, the
- 9 Department of Health Services, Cal/EPA to set whatever
- 10 standards you believe are appropriate and enforce those
- 11 against generators to ensure they don't commingle
- 12 inappropriate radioactive materials with the waste they
- 13 may send to any solid waste facility including Bradley
- 14 Landfill.
- We do monitor our leachate. We do monitor the
- 16 groundwater. There is a recent effort by the State Water
- 17 Resources Control Board and the regional boards to take a
- 18 look at radioactivity and leachate and groundwater. The
- 19 good news is Bradley does not have any evidence of any
- 20 radioactivity in any groundwater at the facility. There
- 21 is heightened levels of beta emissions -- gross beta. We
- 22 believe it's highly correlated to potassium levels in
- 23 waste. It's typical of solid waste. We're not saying
- 24 potassium is the only source necessarily.
- 25 We're going to be certainly working with the

- 1 State and Regional Water Quality Control Boards in the
- 2 future to determine as best we can what are the possible
- 3 isotopes that would be leading to this level of beta. But
- 4 from our understanding of information from other
- 5 landfills, while it is elevated, it's nothing that should
- 6 be of concern. It doesn't pose any radiation threat we're
- 7 aware of to workers or to the community. But we're
- 8 certainly looking at that in much greater detail.
- 9 The standards that are being referred to that its
- 10 beta levels are nine times MCL's, that's a drinking water
- 11 standard. No one's proposing we drink leachate. Leachate
- 12 has a tenancy to concentrate a lot of things that are in
- 13 landfills. Not that I'm trying to discount this. We'll
- 14 be looking at it much more closely to see if we can
- 15 determine the sources and origin of these materials.
- 16 The bottom line is we don't want to take
- 17 radioactive materials into our landfills. We've done
- 18 everything humanly possible that we can. We've erected
- 19 signage at our landfills including Bradley. We recently
- 20 sent out 190,000 notices to all of our commercial
- 21 industrial customers throughout California saying we do
- 22 not want to accept any decommissioned radioactive
- 23 materials. You may recall there has been some concern in
- 24 the past of the Department of Health Services
- 25 decommissioning radioactive waste and then having them

- 1 allowed. After decommissioning, they're no longer
- 2 radioactive waste, per se, and they can be shipped off by
- 3 a generator to potentially any landfill or even recycling
- 4 facilities or playgrounds for that matter.
- 5 We have sent notices out to 190,000. We're going
- 6 to repeat that notice twice a year until the Governor's
- 7 moratorium on the disposal of decommissioned materials
- 8 ends at some point in time in the future or is continued
- 9 or is followed in something else. Our intent is to do
- 10 everything we can humanly possible to keep these kinds of
- 11 materials out of the landfills and including the Bradley
- 12 Landfill. Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON MOULTON-PATTERSON: Thank you,
- 14 Mr. White.
- 15 Any other comments by any Board members? Seeing
- 16 none, this meeting is adjourned. Thank you all very much.
- 17 (Thereupon the California Waste Management Board
- 18 adjourned at 2:36 p.m.)

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1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
2	I, TIFFANY C. KRAFT, a Certified Shorthand
3	Reporter of the State of California, and Registered
4	Professional Reporter, do hereby certify:
5	That I am a disinterested person herein; that the
6	foregoing hearing was reported in shorthand by me,
7	Tiffany C. Kraft, a Certified Shorthand Reporter of the
8	State of California, and thereafter transcribed into
9	typewriting.
10	I further certify that I am not of counsel or
11	attorney for any of the parties to said hearing nor in any
12	way interested in the outcome of said hearing.
13	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
14	this 2nd day of April, 2003.
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23	TIFFANY C. KRAFT, CSR, RPR
24	Certified Shorthand Reporter
25	License No. 12277